



Chapter 1: God's patience with Jonah

Speaker: Auke Rienstra



JONAH'S CONTEXT

2 KINGS 14:23-25

23 In the fifteenth year of Amaziah the son of Joash, king of Judah, Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel, began to reign in Samaria, and he reigned forty-one years. 24 And he did what was evil in the sight of the Lord. He did not depart from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which he made Israel to sin.



JONAH'S CONTEXT

2 KINGS 14:23-25

25 He restored the border of Israel from Lebohamath as far as the Sea of the Arabah, according to the word of the Lord, the God of Israel, which he spoke by his servant Jonah the son of Amittai, the prophet, who was from Gathhepher.



JONAH'S CONTEXT

2 KINGS 14:23-25

- Time of peace and prosperity
- Spiritually very poor and evil
- Not unlike today...



GODS CALLING FOR JONAH

(1:1-2)

1 Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, 2 "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it, for their evil has come up before me."



GODS CALLING FOR JONAH (1:1-2)

- Nineveh is the capital city of the Assyrian empire
- Assyrians were brutal enemy
- Like God calling you to go to Afghanistan to witness to ISIS
- What is God calling you to?



WHAT IS GODS CALLING FOR IBC?

1. Worshipping God
2. Building believers
3. Sharing Jesus



JONAH ON THE RUN...

(1:3)

3But Jonah rose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish. So he paid the fare and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the Lord.



JONAH ON THE RUN... (1:3)



- There is always a ship, an excuse to find to run away from Gods calling...



GODS PATIENT PURSUIT OF JONAH (1:4-16)



GODS BRINGS A STORM/CRISIS (1:4-5A)

4But the Lord hurled a great wind upon the sea, and there was a mighty tempest on the sea, so that the ship threatened to break up. 5A Then the mariners were afraid, and each cried out to his god. And they hurled the cargo that was in the ship into the sea to lighten it for them.



GODS BRINGS A STORM/CRISIS (1:4-5A)

Vs 4-5A

- God brings a storm
- To bring Jonah back to Him and His mission
- Sometimes God brings a storm or crisis in our lives as well.
- Is it storming atm?



A REBELLIOUS SLEEP..

(1:5B)

5B But Jonah had gone down into the inner part of the ship and had lain down and was fast asleep.

- Jonah was sleeping...?!
- It is possible to be 'sleeping' while rebelling against God.



THE UNBELIEVERS CRY OUT (1:6)

6So the captain came and said to him, "What do you mean, you sleeper? Arise, call out to your god! Perhaps the god will give a thought to us, that we may not perish."

- The unbelievers tell Jonah to cry out to God!



JONAH KNEW... (1:7-10)

7And they said to one another, "Come, let us cast lots, that we may know on whose account this evil has come upon us." So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah. 8Then they said to him, "Tell us on whose account this evil has come upon us. What is your occupation? And where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?"



JONAH KNEW... (1:7-10)

9 And he said to them, "I am a Hebrew, and I fear the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land." 10 Then the men were exceedingly afraid and said to him, "What is this that you have done!" For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the Lord, because he had told them.



JONAH KNEW... (1:7-10)

- Jonah knew that his rebellion against God was the reason for the storm
- Are we/you answering Gods call?



JONAH SURRENDERED TO GOD AND THERE CAME PEACE (1:11-16)

11 Then they said to him, "What shall we do to you, that the sea may quiet down for us?" For the sea grew more and more tempestuous. 12 He said to them, "Pick me up and hurl me into the sea; then the sea will quiet down for you, for I know it is because of me that this great tempest has come upon you." 13 Nevertheless, the men rowed hard to get back to dry land,



JONAH SURRENDERED TO GOD AND THERE CAME PEACE (1:11-16)

but they could not, for the sea grew more and more tempestuous against them. 14Therefore they called out to the Lord, "O Lord, let us not perish for this man's life, and lay not on us innocent blood, for you, O Lord, have done as it pleased you." 15So they picked up Jonah and hurled him into the sea, and the sea ceased from its raging. 16Then the men feared the Lord exceedingly, and they offered a sacrifice to the Lord and made vows.



JONAH SURRENDERED TO GOD AND THERE CAME PEACE (1:11-16)

- Jonah surrenders himself to God
- Surrender yourself, your life, plans, dreams, circumstances, to God!
- This can be scary (Jonah must have been very afraid as well)
- It will bring peace in you heart and soul!



AND GOD SAVED JONAH

1:17

17 And the Lord appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

- God saved Jonah
- God wants to save you
- God wants to work through you



DID IT REALLY HAPPEN?

MATT. 12:38-41

38 Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered him, saying, "Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you." 39 But he answered them, "An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. 40 For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.



DID IT REALLY HAPPEN?

MATT. 12:38-41

41The men of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and behold, something greater than Jonah is here.



DID IT REALLY HAPPEN?

MATT. 12:38-41

- Yes, it really happened
- And again, it all points to Jesus!

